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(54) **Auxiliary seat for a driver's cab, especially for the cab of an industrial vehicle, and a driver's cab equipped with said auxiliary seat**

(57) An auxiliary seat for a driver's cab, especially for the cab of an industrial vehicle, is integrated in the

underside of the folding supporting structure (3) of a bed installed in the area behind the front seats of the driver's cab.

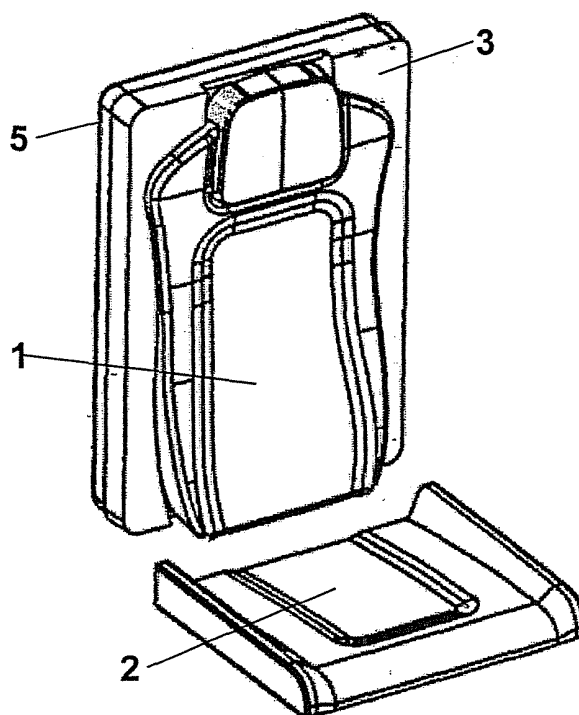


FIG. 1

Description

[0001] The present invention relates to an auxiliary seat for a driver's cab, especially for the cab of an industrial vehicle, and a driver's cab equipped with said auxiliary seat.

[0002] As is known, cabs of industrial vehicles, in particular of long-distance lorries, are traditionally provided with two seats arranged side by side in the front part of the cab, one being the driving seat and the other being for a passenger, who may be a second driver so that two people can take it in turns to drive.

[0003] This pair of seats may not be sufficient if there are more people in the cab, or if the passenger seat has to be removed to make more room in the cab.

[0004] The problem thus arises of the need to install an auxiliary seat in the rear part of the cab. Said seat must be easy to use, implemented at low cost and take up as little room as possible without having to reduce the level of comfort in the cab.

[0005] The purpose of the present invention is to solve the problems described above with an auxiliary seat for a driver's cab, especially for the cab of an industrial vehicle.

[0006] The present invention relates to an auxiliary seat for a driver's cab, especially for the cab of an industrial vehicle, characterized in that it is integrated in the underside of the folding supporting structure of a bed installed in the area behind the front seats in the cab.

[0007] In particular the present invention relates to an auxiliary seat for a driver's cab, especially for the cab of an industrial vehicle, and a cab equipped with said auxiliary seat, as described more fully in the claims, which are an integral part of this description.

[0008] The purposes and advantages of this invention will become clear from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment (and the relative alternative embodiments) and the drawings that are attached hereto, which are merely illustrative and not limitative, in which:

figures 1, 2, 3 illustrate an auxiliary seat according to the present invention, in the open position respectively in an axonometric, front and side view;
figure 4 is a side view of the auxiliary seat in the closed position;
figures 5 and 6 illustrate the auxiliary seat integrated in a bed in the driver's cab.

[0009] In the drawings the same reference numbers and letters are used to indicate the same parts.

[0010] Cabs of industrial vehicles are usually equipped with beds, located in the area behind the seats, to allow the driver or passenger to rest inside the actual cab.

[0011] Said beds comprise a supporting structure, possibly consisting of several sections, anchored to the cab, possibly so as to enable the structure to be folded away or removed, that houses one or more mattresses resting on a spring base.

[0012] The basic idea of the present invention is to integrate an auxiliary seat in the underside of the folding supporting structure of a bed installed in the area behind the front seats in the cab.

[0013] More precisely, use is made of a section 3 of the supporting structure, hereinafter referred to as the frame, that can be folded in relation to an axis of rotation A. For example in the drawings a section on one side is used.

[0014] The backrest 1 of the auxiliary seat is fixed to the underside of the frame 3, so that it is one with the frame, while the seat 2 of the auxiliary seat is independent of the frame-backrest structure. Said seat 2 may be joined to the axis of rotation A and may be folded separately in relation to the backrest.

[0015] As is clear from figure 3, the seat can be used by simply folding the frame 3 upwards in relation to the axis of rotation A (figures 3 and 5) placing it in a substantially vertical position making the backrest 1 available, while the seat 2 is left in the horizontal position.

[0016] On the other hand, when the frame 3 is in the horizontal position (figures 4 and 5), the seat disappears under the frame, so that the bed can be used.

[0017] The amount of space taken up by the auxiliary seat when folded away can be further reduced if the backrest 1 and seat 2 are reciprocally shaped, so that they match, eliminating any space between them (figure 4).

[0018] As can be seen in figure 6, the seat 2 can also be removed or folded separately in relation to the backrest, giving access to the compartment 4 under the bed, which can thus be used to store objects or for other purposes.

[0019] The auxiliary seat can be made of any suitable material of a type that is known.

[0020] It will be apparent to the person skilled in the art that other alternative and equivalent embodiments of the invention can be conceived and reduced to practice without departing from the true spirit of the invention.

[0021] In case of a bed made up of more than one frame, the auxiliary seat is arranged in one of said frames. However, the auxiliary seat may also be implemented in case of a bed consisting of a single frame, provided it is of the folding type. Moreover the auxiliary seat may be arranged in any position in relation to the width of the bed, as required. A number of auxiliary seats may be implemented side by side.

[0022] From the description set forth above it will be possible for the person skilled in the art to embody the invention without introducing any further construction details.

Claims

1. Auxiliary seat for a driver's cab, especially for the cab of an industrial vehicle, said seat comprising a backrest (1) and a seat (2), **characterized in that** it is integrated in the underside of the folding support-

ing structure (3) of a bed installed in the area behind the front seats in the cab.

2. Auxiliary seat for a driver's cab according to claim 1, **characterized in that** said backrest (1) is fixed to said underside of the folding supporting structure (3), and said seat (2) is independent in relation to the frame-backrest structure. 5
3. Auxiliary seat for a driver's cab according to claim 2, **characterized in that** said seat (2) is removable or foldable, so as to give access to a compartment (4) under said bed. 10
4. Auxiliary seat for a driver's cab according to claim 1, **characterized in that** said underside of the folding supporting structure (3) comprises a single section, and said seat is integrated in any point of said underside of said folding supporting structure (3). 15
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5. Auxiliary seat for a driver's cab according to claim 1, **characterized in that** said underside of the folding supporting structure (3) comprises a number of sections, and said seat is integrated in one of said sections. 25
6. Driver's cab, especially of an industrial vehicle, equipped with one or more auxiliary seats according to any of the previous claims. 30

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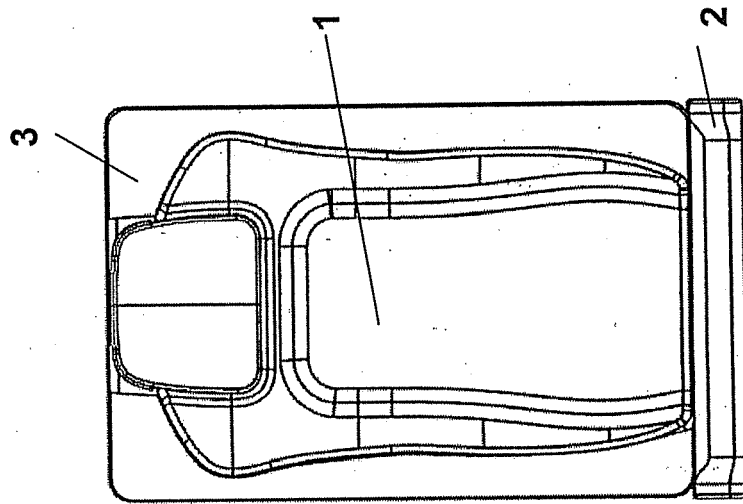


FIG. 2

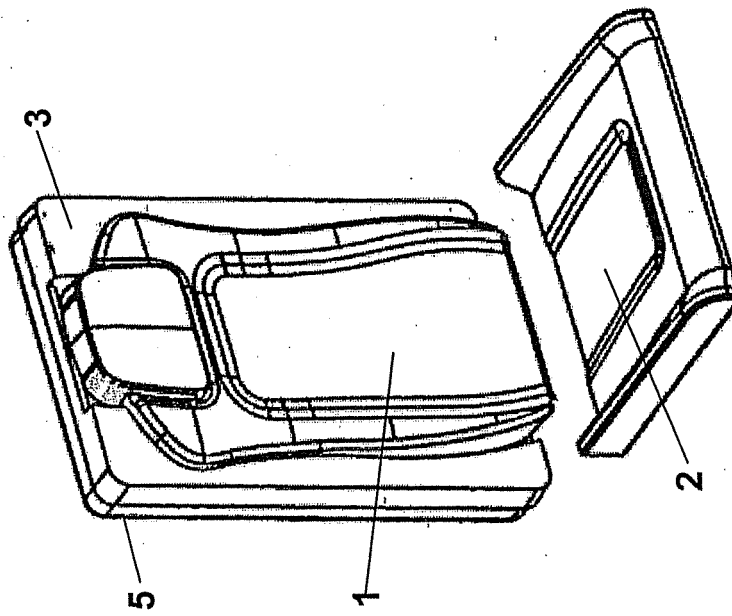


FIG. 1

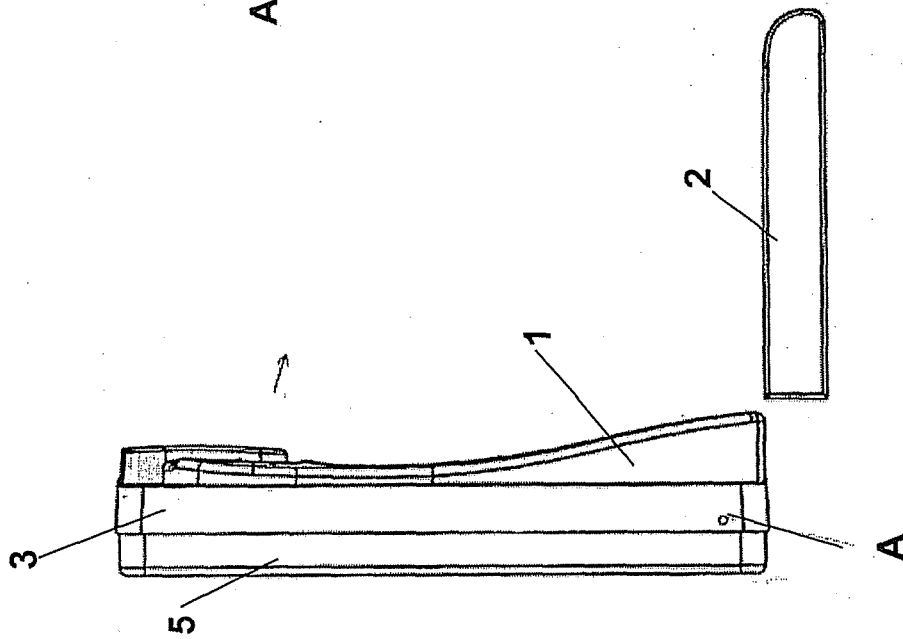


FIG. 3

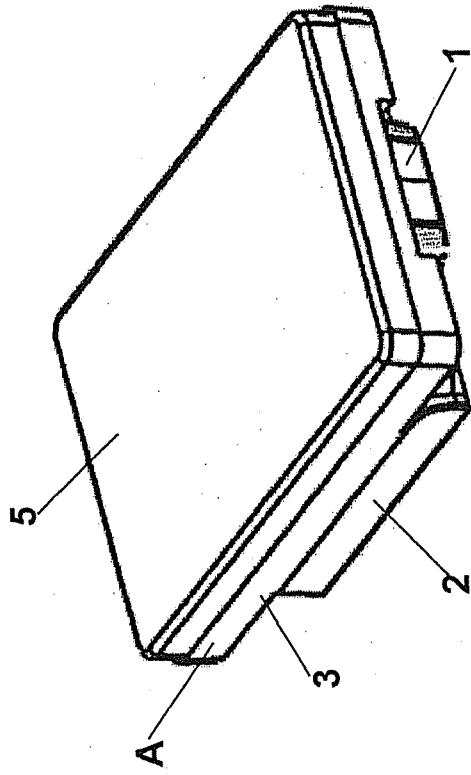


FIG. 4

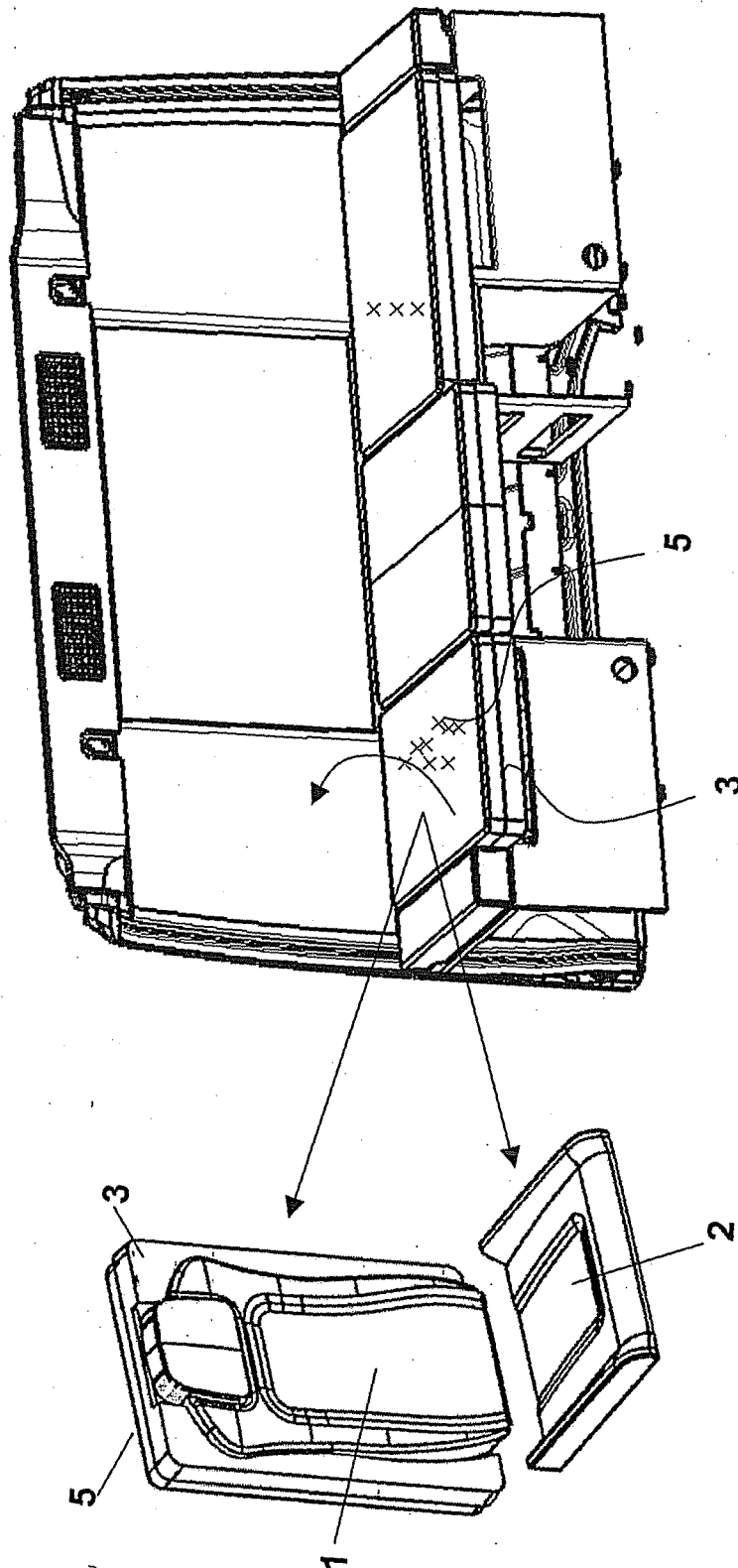


FIG. 5

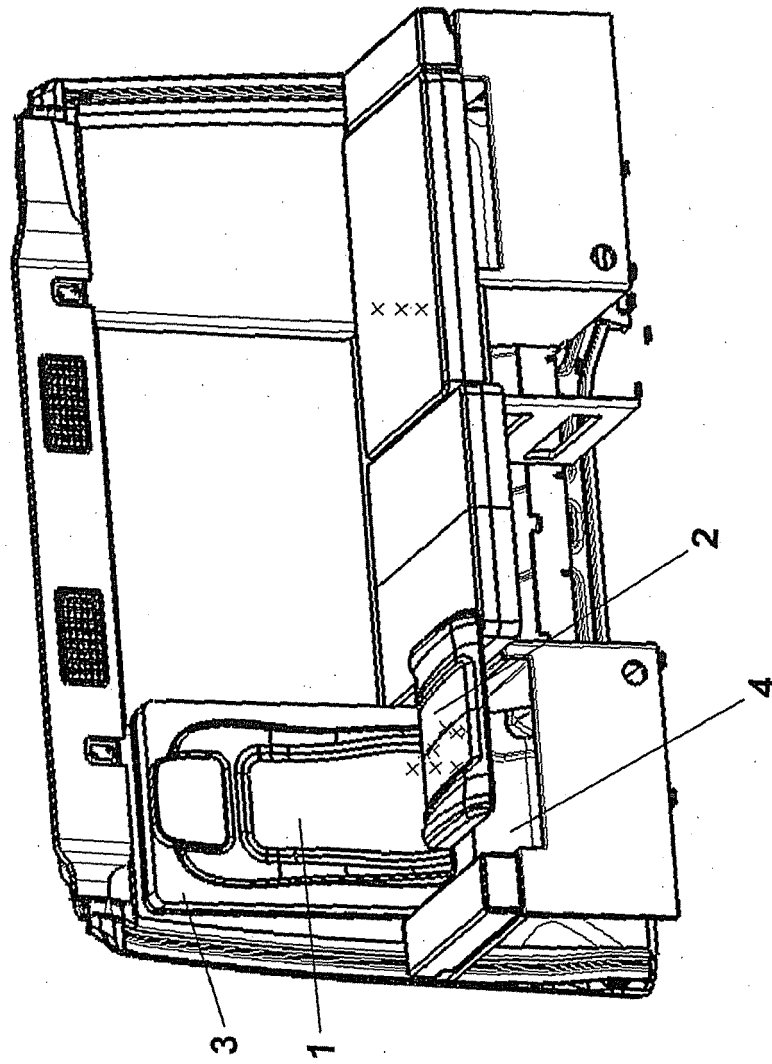


FIG. 6



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 06 11 8190

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Berlin		Date of completion of the search 13 November 2006	Examiner Wisnicki, Michal
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 06 11 8190

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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